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FARM ECONOMIC NEWS NOTES.

During the past winter the first farm management short course ever held in Illinois was conducted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Forty farmers and farm boys spent five days studying soil fertility, crop rotations, livestock production, dairying, and poultry production under the direction of specialists from the University of Illinois. The relation of each of these fields of study to farm management was pointed out and the salient features emphasized. The students worked out cropping systems adapted to their individual farms, replanned the field system to fit the cropping systems outlined, and studied the general principles of efficient organization and operation as applied to the business of farming.

Farm accounting was featured the last day. Mr. Rehling, the farm adviser, plans to make this the basis for his project in farm organization which he expects to carry on in coöperation with a large number of farm bureau members in 1922 and succeeding years.

A new course, entitled farm operation, has been given during the first semester of this year by the Farm Management Department of the University of Illinois.

This course includes a study of the principles of efficiency as developed by industrial engineers, and their application to farming; the important factors which determine the net farm income; labor supply, standards, requirements, and labor calendars; farm power requirements for belt and drawbar work, sources of power, comparative costs of the various sources, and the most efficient utilization of farm power.

The investigational work in farm management at the Arkansas College of Agriculture during the past year has been entirely in gathering labor data to be used as basic factors in cost accounting, and in getting the seasonal distribution of labor data as a means of helping to plan the work of the farm. These data cover all of the important crops of Arkansas, and in the cases of cotton, corn, and a few other crops the data are given for more than one part of the State. These data will be used later in the extension work.

Mr. Turner Wright, formerly the Marketing Specialist for Arkansas, is now manager of the Arkansas Sweet Potato Growers' Association and is distributing Arkansas Sweets far and near.

Mr. Thomas H. Summers, formerly of the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics, has been appointed the farm management demonstrator in Colorado. He reported for duty on March 16.

The Division of Farm Engineering of the West Virginia College of Agriculture has been placed in the Department of Farm Economics. Mr. F. D. Cornell, a graduate of Syracuse University, has been placed in charge of this work.

The Department of Agricultural Economics of the University of Tennessee, under the direction of Professor C. E. Allred, is this year offering for the first time a course in Rural Sociology. The course in Farm Cost Accounting is proving to be one of the most popular courses at the Tennessee Agricultural College, the enrollment in that subject this year being almost double that of last year.

Mr. Ralph Loomis has resigned his position as Extension Specialist in Marketing at the University of Missouri and is taking a theological course at Oberlin, Ohio. His place on the Extension staff at Missouri has not yet been filled.

Mr. Paul Mehl, who for two years was Extension Agent in Marketing in Oregon, took up his duties as Extension Agent in Marketing in Connecticut in October, 1921. Mr. Mehl has just completed a survey of the costs of operating grain and feed stores in Connecticut. A copy of his general report on the first phase of this project is to be in the *Flour and Feed* magazine of March, 1922.

The Economics Department of the Connecticut Agricultural College is conducting a study of the methods employed by farmers in marketing eggs.

At a recent meeting of the New England Association of Marketing Officials, held in Boston, W. A. Munson, Director of the Massachu-

setts Bureau of Markets, was elected president; Andrew Felker, Commissioner of Agriculture of New Hampshire, was elected vice-president, and I. G. Davis, Professor of Economics of the Connecticut Agricultural College, secretary-treasurer for the ensuing year.

Delaware has no Department of Farm Management in the University or Agricultural Experiment Station. The instructional work in Farm Management is in charge of the Department of Agronomy and Farm Management Extension work is on a part-time basis in charge of County Agent Leader, M. O. Pence, acting as farm management demonstrator. During the past winter we have held in each county one or more one-day farm account schools at which the farmers were given a sample farm record including receipts, expenses, and opening and closing inventories. The labor income is worked out along with factors of efficiency in labor and in crop and livestock enterprises. We hope as a result of these meetings to get a number of farmers in these communities to keep their own records, which will be summarized a year hence.

Publicity material along the line of farm economics is prepared regularly for the Monthly Extension Service News, and in the absence of a Marketing Specialist considerable aid of an advisory nature has been given to farmers' produce associations and the farmers' cooperative elevator movement. The latter is entirely new in this State.

During the winter of 1921-22 ninety-seven farm management schools, with an attendance of 4,587, were held in Minnesota. The subjects taken up at the schools were on the cost of producing butter-fat, potatoes, corn, pork, and wheat. Those who assisted in conducting the schools in addition to W. L. Cavert, the farm management demonstrator, and various county agents, were Director of Extension F. W. Peck, Professor Andrew Boss, Mr. R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent of the Waseca Station, assistant county agent leaders S. B. Cleland, F. J. Brown, W. J. Corwin, and assistant professors G. A. Pond and L. F. Garey.

The first research work to be started by the new Department of Economics and Sociology of the Colorado College of Agriculture since its establishment in January of this year will be with a group of twenty-five farmers. These farmers will keep accurate cost ac-

counts of all farm operations during the next few years. This work will bring together definite information in reference to labor operations on different farm enterprises, farm expenses relating to crops and live stock, and the returns from these sources at the end of the year. Professor L. A. Moorhouse, of the Department of Economics and Sociology, and who was formerly with the Office of Farm Management of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, will supervise this work. Mr. George Knutson, of the same department, will carry on the route work and visit each of the farms included in the project at least twice and, if possible, three times a month.

A new Department of Farm Economics has recently been established at the South Dakota College of Agriculture to handle some research work along farm management lines and the teaching of certain courses. Teaching work commences this spring term with the giving of a course in the marketing of agricultural products. Courses in farm management and agricultural economics are being developed for next year.

In coöperation with the State Department of Agriculture cost of production work on farm products is being done. A cost route of twenty farms has been established at Oldham, with Mr. C. G. Worsham, formerly of the Minnesota College of Agriculture, in charge. Several farm surveys in representative sections of the State, which it is planned to continue for several years, are being made. About fifty individual coöperative labor, feed, and financial records are being kept with farmers throughout the State. A study of the local livestock shipping costs is being made in coöperation with the Bureau of Markets, United States Department of Agriculture.

New personnel in the Department of Farm Economics, South Dakota College of Agriculture, include the following: Mr. C. G. Worsham, formerly with the Cost of Production Division, Minnesota College of Agriculture; Miss Mathilda Marshall, formerly statistician, Minnesota College of Agriculture; Mr. Harold Hedges, who graduated from the Farm Management Section of the University of Nebraska in 1921; Miss Ethel Van Cleve, formerly with the Federal Board for Vocational Education, and Mr. Charles Krahler, formerly route statistician for the Minnesota College of Agriculture.

Mr. J. D. Black, Chief of the Division of Agricultural Economics, University of Minnesota, will be on leave of absence from April 1

to July 1 while undertaking supervision of some research work with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in Washington. During his absence Dr. H. B. Price will be in charge of the Division.

Mr. G. C. Haas, University of Minnesota, on April 1 joins the staff of the Division of Land Economics of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to work on the problem of land valuation. Mr. Haas has just completed a multiple correlation study of the factors determining land values in Blue Earth County, Minnesota.

Dr. H. B. Price is being assisted in the project in cost of marketing live stock which is being carried on by the Minnesota College of Agriculture in coöperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics by Mr. E. W. Gaumnitz, Mr. Paul Miller, and Mr. B. A. Holt.

The Seminar work in marketing during the spring and summer quarters, University of Minnesota, will be devoted to carrying forward to completion the survey of the marketing of agricultural products in the Twin Cities. The seminar group working on this problem during the spring quarter will consist of twenty graduate students.

The summer session work in Agricultural Economics at the University of Minnesota will be conducted by Dr. H. B. Price, Dr. Holbrook Working, Mr. C. F. Clayton, and Mr. Warren C. Waite. Professor Fred C. Garver of the School of Business, will assist by offering work in Economic Theory on the Main University Campus.

Mr. Walter V. Kell, formerly county agent in Indiana, has been appointed as assistant in the Farm Management Extension work, Purdue University. Mr. Kell is a graduate of the University of Illinois, and besides being in county extension work for five years, has spent several years as manager of large farms.

Dr. L. C. Gray, of the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics, and Mr. Nat C. Murray, Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, sailed April 20 to represent the United States at the General Assembly of the International Institute of Agriculture which convenes at Rome May 8.

A year of great activity under the Federal Warehouse Act has just closed. Beginning in April, 1921, warehousemen, previously rather indifferent even to the existence of the Act, have been hastening to avail themselves of its benefits, which extend back from the warehouse to the farmer, and on from the warehouse to the banker. Although the Act was passed in 1916, comparatively few warehouses were licensed federally during the first few years. Much educational work was necessary until the agricultural conditions following the war drove the lessons home. By April, 1922, however, more than 560 warehouses were so licensed and many applications were pending.

Dr. W. J. Spillman, formerly Chief of the Office of Farm Management, is spending several months with the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, where he is making a series of special studies at the request of Dr. H. C. Taylor, Chief of the Bureau.

Chris Lauriths Christensen, who will complete his study and work on a fellowship with the University of Copenhagen on June 1, 1922, has consented to make a study of the coöperative movement in Denmark for the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates. Negotiations are under way for the temporary appointment of Mr. Christensen.

The Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics, in coöperation with the Vermont College of Agriculture, has begun a continued farm business analysis survey of dairy farms in Vermont. Messrs. W. C. Funk and Bruce McKinley compose the part from the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics.

The Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics, in coöperation with the Montana College of Agriculture, will begin a continued survey in the dry land farming areas of north-central Montana. Special attention will be paid to getting details of the organization of the most successful types of farming followed in that region.

An index to current prices is being prepared in the Library of the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates. In April, prices had been indexed on nearly 1,100 commodities in the United States and on 175 in foreign countries. Fifty-seven periodicals, newspapers, and price quotation sheets had been covered.

Through the interest and enthusiasm of Dr. H. C. Taylor, Chief of the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, representatives of widely differing schools of thought have spoken before the staff of the United States Department of Agriculture during the past winter. The speakers included Drs. Carver and Cole of Harvard, Drs. Ely and Hibbard of Wisconsin, Dr. Cance of Amherst, President Bizzell of the Texas Agricultural College, and Mr. G. Harold Powell, then General Manager of the California Fruit Growers' Exchange.

Governor Cameron Morrison, of North Carolina, has appointed a commission, headed by Dr. B. F. Brown, Chief, Division of Markets of the North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering, to make a study and to report on farm tenancy in North Carolina.

This commission has agreed to make an initial, intensive study, coöperating with the Section of Land Economics, under the direction of Dr. L. C. Gray, and the Section of Rural Life Studies, under the direction of Dr. C. J. Galpin, of the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics. The plan is to study a thousand farms in three representative areas: one area to be studied under the direction of Dr. E. C. Branson, of the University of North Carolina; the second under the direction of Dr. C. C. Taylor, of the North Carolina State College of Agriculture; the third under the direction of Professor E. C. Lindeman, of the North Carolina College for Women, Greensboro.

After the intensive study of the thousand farms, it is expected that a few outstanding situations will be discovered which will be used as the basis for the second step of the study, namely, a state-wide investigation. It is expected that the report will recommend legislation based upon the whole inquiry.

Standardization studies in progress in the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates include such commodities as wool, live stock and dressed meats, tobacco, fruits and vegetables, dairy products and hay. Containers for fruits and vegetables, federally standardized in part, are ready for further legislation, and studies beyond the recommended standards are under way. The Bureau is slowly formulating the principles that should underlie all agricultural standardization work and is developing toward uniformity in federal standardization. Cotton, wheat, shelled corn, and oats are already standardized by laws enforced by the Bureau.

The Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates is conducting a series of test shipments of fruit through the Panama Canal under varying planned conditions of temperature, ventilation, and other factors. Investigators accompany the trips and make constant records of conditions which are correlated with the condition of the fruit on arrival. Tentative results of these trips are given to the coöperating state departments, shippers, and shippers' organizations.

THE WASHINGTON LOCAL A. F. E. A.

A District of Columbia Section of the American Farm Economic Association was organized March 9. More than forty persons interested in farm economics were present at this meeting. Dr. O. C. Stine presided. Dr. Henry C. Taylor outlined the history and work of the national association. Mr. Nat C. Murray, chief statistician of the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, told of a previous organization of the kind that existed in Washington during the years 1913 and 1914 under the name of the Rural Economic Society. Dr. W. J. Spillman also spoke on early days in farm economics work. The following officers were elected: President, Dr. C. L. Stewart, economist in the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics; Vice-President, Miss Caroline B. Sherman, assistant in market information, and Secretary, Mr. Charles Bohannon, economist, both of the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates.